

Nolin River Lake, Lakefront Property Certification Program

Summary of work:

Nolin River Lake is a Corps flood control project, and as such the Corps owns the land inundated at summer pool level (515' msl) and additional lands above summer pool. Land was intended to be purchased to elevation 544' msl, but the property line is not consistently at that elevation. At summer pool, there are 7,618 acres of Government property surrounding the lake.

The Lake is surrounded by over 120 Subdivisions. These lakefront developments have negative impacts on the waters of Nolin River Lake. Impacts include: bacteria, excess nutrients, sedimentation, litter, shoreline erosion, and introduction of invasive terrestrial plant species.

It is the goal of this project to:

1. *Reduce the presence of fecal bacteria in the lake, especially near public swimming access points;*
2. *Combat invasive plant species*
3. *Reduce nutrient and sediment contributions*
4. *Locate and reduce shoreline erosion*
5. *Reduce litter along the shoreline*

The primary means for obtaining these goals will be the implementation of a Certification Program. Through implementing BMP's, lakefront property owners will gain credit toward certification. If an adjacent property owner implements BMP's in each of the four categories (Bacteria, invasive species, Nutrients and sediment, and shoreline erosion), the property will be considered a "Friends of Nolin Certified Property". Groups of property owners can also apply for certification (all the members of a group boat dock, all the members of a permitted pathway, etc.).

Recognition will also be given to subdivisions where numerous properties are certified. Neighborhoods could obtain "Friend of Nolin Certified Community" status by meeting targets set for percent of properties certified.

Bacteria- Septic tank pumping, septic system repair, septic tank access retrofits, attend an educational class

Invasive Species- removal of invasive species from Public Property below landowners homes, removal of invasive landscaping plants, planting of suitable native plants on private property, attend an educational class

Nutrients and sediment – Participate in septic program, attend workshop, install check dams or silt fencing, agree to discontinue fertilizer use or test soil and apply only at appropriate rates and times. Reduce or eliminate permitted Vegetation Alteration areas. Plant trees or suitable vegetative buffers.

Shoreline Erosion – Enter into an erosion control permit at a permitted boat dock or other area along the shoreline at Nolin. Erosion control would include stone placement and vegetative plantings per USACE guidelines.

Other project activities:

Trash Clean-up: In addition to the certification program, the annual shoreline clean-up day will be continued and bolstered during this project.

Invasive Species Removal: Groups of volunteers will be utilized to map and remove invasive species from public lands at Nolin River Lake

Volunteer tree planting: Volunteers will assist the Friends of Nolin and US Army Corps of Engineers in planting trees and live stakes along the Nolin River Lake Shoreline.

Education: Partners will provide education to program participants as described above. The Friends of Nolin Lake will utilize their website, sponsors, and public events to educate the public concerning non-point source pollution and encourage lakefront property owners to participate in the Certification Program.